(VII) The State of Assam which already enjoyed the status of 'special category' would now be given assistance on the pattern of 90 per cent grant and 10 per cent loan.

(VIII) A package for the revival of Ashok Paper Mills was prepared in consultation with the Govt. of Assam and accordingly a grant of Rs. 67.08 crores was approved out of which a sum of Rs. 10.69 crores was released to the State in March, 1990.

(IX) A grant of Rs. 2.40 crores has been released for the revival of the Cooperative Jute Mill and the Mill has been revived.

(X) The cases of disciplinary action against Central employees have been reviewed with sympathy.

(XI) Ex-gratia payment Rs. 5000|- per person has been made to the next of kin of those who were killed in the course of agitation and the entire amount has been given by the Central Government as grant to the State Government.

(XII) The upper age limit was relaxed for a period of 5 years by the Central Government for Central employment in case of candidates from Assam.

(XIII) The setting up of an Oil Refinery at Numaligarh in Assam is under active processing.

(XIV) An Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) is being set up in Assam.

Production of Petroleum and Allied Products by Oil Industry

*7. SHRI ASHIS SEN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total production of petroleum and allied products by Oil Industry during the year 1990-91;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Indian Oil Corporation exported 2.48 million tons of surplus petroleum products valued at Rs. 935 crores during the year 1990-91; and

(c) the quantum of foreign exchange earned by the IOC during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) About 50.087 million tonnes.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) US dollar 520 million approximately.

Southern Gas Pipeline

*8. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for a Southern Gas pipeline from Bombay High to Cauvery basin in Tamil Nadu *via* the Kerala coast;

(b) whether any Chamber of Commerce of any Southern State have submitted a memorandum in this regard; and

(c) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c) A techno-economic feasibility study for a Southern gas pipeline is being carried out.

Objeitives of IMPCL

*9. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Medicine Pharmaceutical Corporation